

MODERN FABLES The Regular Kind of a Place and the Usual Way it Turned Out.

(Copyrighted 1902 by Robert Howard Russell.)

(Copyright, 1902, by Robert Howard Russell.)

Once there was a home-like Bessie where one could tell the Day of the Week by the name of the Table. The Stroke of this Food Bazaar had been in the Business for twenty years, and she had earned her Harp three times over. She prided herself on the Atmosphere of Culture that permeated the Establishment and the fact that she did not harbor any Improper Characters. A good many Improper Characters came around and sized up the Lay-Out and then blew. It was a sure-enough Boarding-House, such as many of our Best People know all about, even if they won't tell. All they had to do to get the Centre Table ready for Ping-Pong was to take off the Castor.

The Landlady was doing what she could to discourage the Beef Trust, but she carried a heavy line of Oatmeal. She had Oatmeal to burn, and sometimes she did it. And she often remarked that Spinach had Iron in it and was great for the Blood. One of her pet Theories was that Pine contained more Nutrients than could be found in Spring Chicken, but the Boarders allowed that she never saw a Spring Chicken.

In the Cast of Characters were many of the Old Favorites. There was the Lippy Boy with the Williams and Walker

Yell. His Idea of a Hurray was to get in a Parlor with a few Sisters who were under the Age Limit and sing the Bass Part of "Pull for the Shore."

Then there was the Old Boarner. He



was the Land-Mark. Having lived in Boarding-Houses and Hotels all his Life, he had developed a Grouch that enveloped him like a Morning Fog. He had a Way of turning Things over with his Fork, as if to say, "Well, I don't know about this." And he never believed anything he saw in the Papers. He said the Papers printed those things just to fill up the Vitellus paid more attention to him than to any one else, because if he didn't get on his Lettuce he was liable to cry all over the table cloth.

Then there was the chubby Man, who came in every Evening and told what had happened at the Store that Day, and there was a human Ant-Eater who made Puns.

One of the necessary Features of a refined Joint is the Slender Thing who is taking Music and has Mommer along to fight off the Managers and hush the Voiced of Scandal. This Boarding-House had one of these Mother-and-Child Combinations that was a Dream. Daughter was full of Kibbelik and Josef Hoffman. Away back in the Pines somewhere there was a Father who was very careful of his Mother's Job seemed to be to sit around and Root. She was a consistent Little Booster. If what Mother said was true, then Effie's Voice was a good deal better than her own. She said the Teachers were just crazy about it and all of them agreed that Effie ought to go to Paris or Milan. The slangy Boy with his rag-time Shirt went them one better and said that ALL of the phoney Melbas in the country ought to pull for the Midway and wait until they were sent for.

In this same boarding-house there was

a Widow whose husband had neglected to die. Being left all alone in the World she had gone out to make her Way, since which time she had gained about thirty pounds and was considered Great Company by the Young Men.

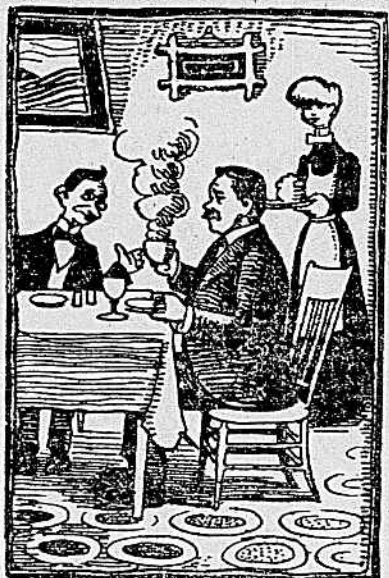
Necessary there was a Pale Lady who loved to read and the Patrons that appeared in Godley's Magazine soon after the War.

Then there was the Married Couple, without any Children or Furniture of their own, and the only reason they didn't take a House was that Henry had to be off on Wednesday, June 11th. They had been whooped \$50 a year and she was just beginning to say Gown instead of Dress. She had the Society Column for Breakfast and things looked dark for Henry.

For many months this conventional Group of ordinary Mortals had lived in a Rut. At each mealtime they rounded up and mechanically devoured what was doled out to them and folded their Napkins and broke ranks. Each day was the Duplicate of another and Life had perched down to Routine.

One Evening just as they had come in for their term, a new Boarder glided into their midst. She was a tall Gypsy Queen with about \$1,200 worth of Clothes that fit her everywhere and all the time she was watching the kind of a Walk, the same being a Cue for all the other Girls to get out their Hardware.

When she moved up to the table and began to distribute a few sample Smiles, so as to indicate the Character of her Work, the musical Team went out with the Tide. The Grass Widow curled up like an Autumn Leaf, the touch-me-not Married Lady dropped into the Scrub Division, the Lady who was waiting for a Spoon and afraid to ask for it. The Men were all goggle-eyed and the Help was running into Chairs and dropping



Important parts of the Menu. Presently the Landlady came in and explained. She said that Mrs. Williams was in the city to shop for the couple of Days and her Husband would be up on the Night Train. Whereupon five men fell upon the Table and began to eat.

MORAL: Nothing ever happens at a Boarding House.

He liked the best pictures rather by instinct than by knowledge. Only the great masters knew how to paint a story, and the story always appealed to his sense of technique. He began wandering slowly along the Gallery, soothing his eyes with the harmonious lines of pictures, and gradually forgetting his late burst of uncontrollable anger.

Suddenly, without warning, his eyes fell upon a life-size portrait of Her, his beautiful young fiancée, who had been dead for two interminable years. On the wall, the dear, well-remembered face looked down upon him, smiling slightly as she used to do in life.

It was a wonderful portrait because she had been so difficult a subject. She was unpaintable in a sense, being so full of life and laughter and expression. The artist had caught her at her happiest, most characteristic moment, alert, brilliant with the subtle dawning of her charming smile lingering on her lips.

The suddenness of his discovery almost stunned Reford into unconsciousness. For an instant through his scorching, blinding tears, the room swam about him, then the mind of seeing came back, even in the mocking guise of a portrait, sent the blood rushing along his veins. By lightning he came back to the portrait. That was the name of the struggling, young art-student she had saved from starvation in the Latin Quarter, and crowding on his mind was the memory of certain mysterious hints she had given him of a "Beth" and a "Dalton."

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There came a dangerous sparkle in the yellow, Oriental eyes.

"You have led to me just now," went on the Egyptian with some heat. "You have told me that I shall see the person about whom I asked the question, that I shall see her to-day. . . . for she has told me a lie. . . . for she is dead."

For two years he had not dared trust himself to speak her name, but anger sustained him. His voice was clear and coldly scornful as he arraigned the impostor before him. But the day of his face of the Egyptian lit up with a smile so charmingly sunny and ingenious that Reford's anger vanished completely before it. The scamp actually seemed delighted at the discovery of his trickery.

"Ah, then that was the difficulty, Monsieur. There was some unusual mystery—I ought to have suspected what it was—which prevented the conditions. But now that you tell me that she is dead, all is explained."

A sudden revulsion of feeling shook the American. For two years no one had ventured to mention her name in his presence, and now a vagabond Egyptian charlatan had smiled when he had learned of her death. He turned abruptly on his heel, and went out into the brilliant light and laughter of the Midway.

"But I have told you the truth. In some way—I cannot tell how—Monsieur shall see her to-day."

The echo of the soft, confident voice followed him out into the riotous confusion of the Street of Folly. But Reford was no longer in holiday humor. The gay clamor and melody of his ears jarred inexpressibly upon his figures jarred inexpressibly upon his joy. He hurried away from the jostling throng, and after drifting aimlessly about the Exposition grounds, wandered into the Art Building and sat down exhausted upon a bench.

Directly before him hung Abbey's "Penance of Queen Eleanor," and it roused his vivid admiration and sympathy as he gazed at it. The poor, love-center of the picture, barefoot, in her white raiment, holding up her candle that in the midst of the grinning, jeering faces of the crowd about her, the King might miss no token of her open shame.

Behind him, as if alive, he saw a tall, young woman with smiling, morning face looking down upon him from a life-size canvass upon the wall, but he turned back again to the maddest Queen who seemed to suit his expression, and mood. What a grief-stricken man like himself in common with all that fresh, young happiness behind him?

Reford had never pretended to art

A HALE AND HEARTY COUPLE IN AUGUSTA

Mr. and Mrs. Craig Visit Friends in Staunton at Age of 81.

FINAL EXERCISES OF SCHOOLS

Confederate Memorial Day to Be Celebrated Monday—A Popular Doctor Goes to W. Va.—A Crack Shot Kills Thirty-two Squirrels.

(Special Dispatch to The Times.)

STAUNTON, VA., June 7.—The Staunton white public school had an exhibition of the drawing and manual training departments in school Thursday evening from 8 to 6 o'clock.

The final exercises of white schools was held in the assembly room of the school Friday morning, commencing at 10 o'clock. An address was delivered by Rev. A. M. Fraser, D. D., of the First Presbyterian Church.

The closing exercises of the Virginia School for the Deaf and Blind will be held on Wednesday, June 11th. The United States Civil Service Commission will be held in Staunton for positions in classified services as follows: Assistant examiner in the Patent Office, June 10th and 11th; photographic assistant, June 17th; for record and identification clerk, United States penitentiary service, June 17th.

Robert Craig and wife, of Moffett's Creek, who are each eighty-one years old, and in good health, are visiting Mr. T. C. Craig, near the city. One day this week they visited for the first time the new county court-house, and under the guidance of the county clerk inspected the building throughout and expressed themselves as being highly pleased with it.

FREED-MILLER.

St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church was the scene of a pretty wedding on Wednesday of last week, when Miss Ellen A. Miller, of Long Meadows, Augusta county, became the bride of Dr. J. W. Freed, of the county. The church had been beautifully decorated in white and green for the occasion, with many candles adding to the brilliancy of the scene. The ceremony was performed by Rev. S. L. Keller, pastor, assisted by Rev. C. A. Freed, of Middlebrook, brother or the groom. The wedding march was played by Miss Leona Colner.

The bridesmaids were Messrs. Victor and Joseph Colner, and led the bridal party in the following order: Groomsman, Messrs. Wade, Colner, and G. O. Hildebrand; next bridesmaids, Misses Loula Colner and Nettie Colner. The bridesmaids were beautifully attired in white organdy, with pink sashes, and carried pink carnations.

The bride was handsomely attired in a gown of white Paris muslin, trimmed in silk applique, and carried bride's roses.

The bride is a charming young girl, all the other members of the family being in the following order: Groomsman, Messrs. Wade, Colner, and G. O. Hildebrand; next bridesmaids, Misses Loula Colner and Nettie Colner. The bridesmaids were beautifully attired in white organdy, with pink sashes, and carried pink carnations.

FELL FROM A TREE.

Eugene Dabney, the ninety-year-old son of A. E. Dabney, of this city, while climbing up a tree for birds' nests Thursday evening, fell and broke his leg just above the knee. Dr. Glasgow Armstrong was summoned and set the bone. The little fellow has been suffering considerably since his hurt.

All Irene Haislip, who went to Dallas, Tex., in April to attend the Confederate Veterans reunion as maid of honor for Stonewall Jackson Camp, of Staunton, returned home this week, after visiting a number of her Texas cousins and friends.

Mr. J. H. Blackburn has sold to T. R. Blackburn his half interest in planing-mill and shops in this city. Consideration, \$1700.

GOES TO ANOTHER STATE.

Dr. L. N. Harris, of New Hope, Augusta county, will leave in a few days to accept a position with a lumber and mining company at Huntersville, W. Va. Dr. Harris located near New Hope about three years ago, and has built up a good practice, and has gained quite a reputation in Augusta. He recently passed the Board of State Examiners of West Virginia, and has many letters of praise for his thorough knowledge of medicine and manner of treatment.

Dr. Harris will be succeeded by Dr. Mosby, of Mt. Meridian, to whom he has sold his practice and good will. Dr. Mosby is a highly qualified physician, and no doubt will uphold the reputation of Dr. Harris. He is a graduate of a medical college in Richmond, and held a position in a hospital in Boston, Mass., which position was given him on account of his high standing as a medical student.

William McDaniel, the crack shot of the Staunton Gun Club, while hunting at Stuart's Draft Thursday, killed thirty-two fine, large fox squirrels, which he exhibited here.

Washington Gilliam secured a verdict of \$300 Wednesday against the Cleodonia Fire Insurance Company, for insurance of his barn. He sued for \$500.

In and Around The Lobbies.

Judge J. W. Orr, member of the convention from Lee county, was saying good-bye to his friends at Murphy's last night, having left on a late train for his home.

I am a candidate for a position on the Corporation Commission," said Judge Orr. "And have filed my application with the Governor. I shall go back and rally my friends in the Southwest, and have the one of the fortunate. I am glad the work of the convention is over, but I am sorry to part with the friends I have made here."

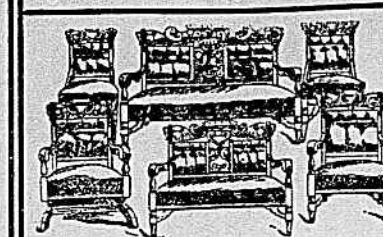
"I will return here, and be in at the finish on June 25th. If nothing happens to prevent," said Delegate George P. Tarry, of Mecklenburg, as he sat on the porch of New Ford's with Delegate Crismond before leaving for his home last night.

Both Messrs. Tarry and Crismond expressed their deep regret at having to part with their friends in the convention. Hon. B. T. Gordon, of Nelson, accompanied Mr. Crismond to Fredericksburg last night and will go over the battle-fields near there to-day.

Among the Virginians last night at Murphy's were: Messrs. James B. Lyons,

The Best Furniture Rightly Priced.

Our Furniture is all rightly priced. With our guarantee on every article we extend you the privileges of our Convenient Charge System—pay weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly, as you wish.



Parlor Suits.

\$16.98 ones.....\$10.98
\$27.00 ones.....\$19.98
\$36.00 ones.....\$26.98
\$50.00 ones.....\$35.00

Bed-Room Suits.

\$16.00 ones.....\$10.98
\$25.00 ones.....\$17.98
\$32.00 ones.....\$24.98
\$38.00 ones.....\$29.00
\$50.00 ones.....\$37.50

Mail Orders Promptly Filled.

Couches.

\$3.95 Couch worth \$6.
\$6.95 Couch worth \$10.00.
\$10.75 Couch, extra large, worth \$15.

Matting.

\$11 Roll, 40 yards.....\$7.50
\$12 Roll, 40 yards.....7.98
\$14 Roll, 40 yards.....9.50
\$17 Roll, 40 yards.....11.00

Sideboards.

\$18 ones.....\$12.98
\$22 ones.....\$14.98
\$30 ones.....\$18.98
\$50 ones.....\$35.00

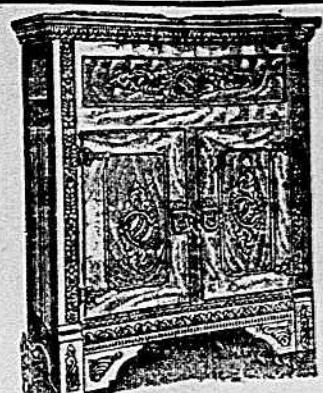
Oilcloths.

55c. Oilcloth.....37c.
45c. Oilcloth.....30c.
35c. Oilcloth.....25c.
25c. Oilcloth.....19c.

Rockers.

\$4.00 Solid Oak Leather-Seat Arm Rockers for.....\$1.90
\$3.50 Solid Oak Cane-Seat Rockers for.....\$1.60

Large Maple Porch Rockers, in red, green, and natural wood finish, worth \$2.00, for.....98c



Refrigerators.

\$10 ones for \$6.99.
\$12 ones for \$7.99.
\$18 ones for \$11.29.
\$25 ones for \$15.69.

Ice Boxes.

\$6 ones for \$3.49.
\$7 ones for \$4.10.
\$9 ones for \$5.99.

HOPKINS FURNITURE COMPANY, 7 and 9 West Broad Street.

THE CHEAPEST CASH OR CREDIT STORE IN THE CITY.

Bristol, and S. A. Dunlop, Farmville.

Mr. R. R. Culmann, of Gulf Port, Miss., is registered at New Ford's.

Virginians at the Lexington are: Mr. Aubrey Burnett and wife, Staunton, and L. W. Irvin, Radford.

BARTON HEIGHTS CHURCHES.

Pastors Will Fill Their Own Pulpits.

Miss Bettie Chisholm, of Manchester, N. C., is visiting the home of Mrs. Horace Chisholm.

Miss Willie Skinner, teacher at Warsaw, Va., who has been visiting Miss Hattie B. Brogdon, has returned to her home in Oxford, N. C.

The Junior Auxiliary of the Epiphany Church will meet next Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock, at the residence of Mrs. Dunn, of Chestnut Hill.

Mr. J. R. Bowles has left for Louisa, Va., on business.

Mrs. George L. Boynton, of Camden, N. C., is visiting the home of Mrs. John H. Jones, of Chestnut Hill.

Mr. Ralph H. Horton, of Danville, Va., is visiting Mr. Frank P. Glass, of Ladies' Mile Road.

Mrs. William P. Adams, of Brooklyn, N. C., is visiting the home of Mrs. Helen B. Robbins, of Brook Hill, Va.

Services will be held at the Methodist Church to-day, both morning and evening. The morning service will be conducted by Rev. S. O. Wright, of Brookland Park, and the evening service by the pastor, Rev. C. E. Blankenship.

Services will be held at the Baptist Church to-day, both morning and evening, at 11 and 8, conducted by the pastor, Rev. W. T. Hundley.

Services will be held at the Epiphany Episcopal Church to-day, conducted by Rev. Mr. Martin Johnson.

Mrs. Parker H. Conrad, who has been visiting the home of Mrs. Charles E. Simpson, of Highland Park, has returned to her home in Gordonsville, Va.

Mr. John H. Walker has returned to his home, in Amelia Courthouse, Va., after a visit to Mr. James H. Wharton, of Chestnut Hill.

Services will be held at the Overbrook Presbyterian Church to-night at 8.15 o'clock, conducted by the pastor, Mr. Irvin.

Mr. Charlie E. Langley has returned to his home from a pleasant visit to his son, Mr. George C. Langley, of Baltimore, Md.

Mr. B. S. Ragland has returned to his home from a South Carolina, where he has been engaged in business for the past two weeks.

A "WILD WEST" INCIDENT.

It's an Ill Wind, Indeed, That Blows Nobody Any Good.

It was at the Wild West Show. A young man and his best girl sat in front of the observer. Next to the man, on the other side, was a Hi-burnian gentleman. As the show progressed, the broncho buster came on. Ed. Solters mounted the ugliest pony in the bunch, and immediately there was something doing all over the foreground. Ed stuck manfully to his saddle until the beast, in a frenzy of anger, rolled with him. When the broncho had ceased pawing the ground about the prostrate man and had hiked off into the gloom, they picked Solters up insensible and carried him away.

It was a blood-curdling scene. It scared the best girl so that she grabbed the young man by the hand and buried her head on his shoulder, while he supported her with his arm. When it was all over, she recovered her composure and blushing resumed her dignity. There was a tense silence. At last it was broken by the Hi-burnian gentleman, who, nudging the young man, remarked in a stake whisper:

"I had, pray given that another was av them guys' girls' four."

"Have a cigar," whispered the young man, with an understanding look in his eyes.

NEW SILK INDUSTRY.

Fayetteville Asking for a New Day Train.

(Special Dispatch to The Times.) FAYETTEVILLE, N. C., June 7.—A further increase in silk manufacturing industry at this point is to be noted. Besides the mill in operation for the past three years, and the one under construction alongside, The Times correspondent learns this morning that excavations and foundations are marked out for a third plant, which, it is thought, will be a darning and finishing mill, with all the advantages of bringing skilled labor to the community.

A petition is circulating in the city, addressed to Mr. J. R. Kenly, of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company, asking for a daily train from Fayetteville to Rocky Mount, to connect with the "Shoofly" train between Richmond and Norfolk.

Governor Lanham to Speak.

Governor-elect Lanham, of Texas, will address the Sons of Veterans at Lee Camp Hall to-morrow night. He will come down from Washington with Captain Lamb. Mr. Lanham is a present Representative in Congress. He is an eloquent speaker and all who can do so should hear him.

ON AGAIN.

The Sunday Trips to Beach Park, West Point, Va.—60c. Round Trip.

COMMENCING Sunday, June 8th, and every Sunday, there will be two trains for West Point.

The first train will leave Richmond, Southern Railway (Fourteenth-Street Station), at 10:30 A. M., returning leave West Point at 8:00 P. M.

The second will leave Richmond at 4:00 P. M., returning leave West Point at 10:30 P. M.

Only 50c. for the round trip. Tickets good going and returning on either train. Only sixty minutes in each direction, and 39 miles to salt water.

SOUTHERN STUDENTS CONFERENCE OF Y. M. C. A., JUNE 14-23 1902.

Annual Conference of Y. W. C. A., June 13-23 1902, Asheville, N. C.

For the above occasion the Southern Railway will sell round trip tickets from all points on its lines to Asheville and return at one fare for the round trip. Tickets to be on sale June 13 and 14, with return limit June 25, 1902.

This offers a rare opportunity for visiting Asheville (Land of the Sky), etc.

SUMMER ELSEWHERE VIA SEABOARD AIR LINE RAILWAY.

The Seaboard has just issued an attractive summer tourist folder under the title, "Summer Elsewhere via Seaboard Air Line Railway," which will be mailed to any address on application, or will be delivered to any one wishing a copy, on application at the company's office, No. 1006 East Main Street, Richmond, or to the offices of the Richmond Transfer Company.

Z. P. SMITH, District Passenger Agent, No. 1006 East Main Street, Richmond.

SEE THAT YOU GET

the genuine Dr. David's Cough Syrup and accept no "just as good" (so-called) remedy that an unscrupulous dealer may wish to force on you. Dr. David's Cough Syrup is put up by Owens & Minor Drug Company, whose name appears on the Dr. David's Best Liver Pills.

large bottle.

The Summer Stock in our Tailoring Department must be closed. \$30.00 to \$35.00 Suits now.....\$22.50 \$35.00 to \$38.00 Suits now.....26.50 \$39.00 to \$10.00 Trousers.....6.75 All made to order in the best manner. Fit guaranteed.

CONSTABLE BROS., 97 E. Main St.

THE STIEFF METHODS UPHELD

At the annual convention of the Piano Dealers' Association in Baltimore the retiring president extolled the one-price system and urged upon dealers the system of placing plain figures upon pianos displayed for sale. The incoming president of the Piano Manufacturers' Association, in his inaugural address, said: "Many of us recall--and it is really only a short time since--when there seemed only two objects to be attained by the piano maker. One, reputation and influence; the other, quality. Cost was a minor consideration. The field was then occupied by only a few competitors, and the influence of certain of them in the musical profession, the newspapers, at world's fairs, and, in fact, everywhere, brought the methods of the piano business into very bad odor, oftentimes contempt. Jealousies almost bloodthirsty were engendered, and, as a result, illegitimate competition was carried to such an extreme that we wonder now how men so fair and sensible as most of the piano makers of that day were in other respects, could have held so mistaken a view of business enterprise."

So our contention is proved that

The Stieff Piano Store is Improving the Ethics of a Very Debased Business

--that the slime of the business, the extortion, the misrepresentation, are of the old line.

A dignified one-price business is the hope of the public; and the greatest assurance that the one-price is the least possible price.

INVESTIGATE!

CHAS. M. STIEFF

431 E. BROAD